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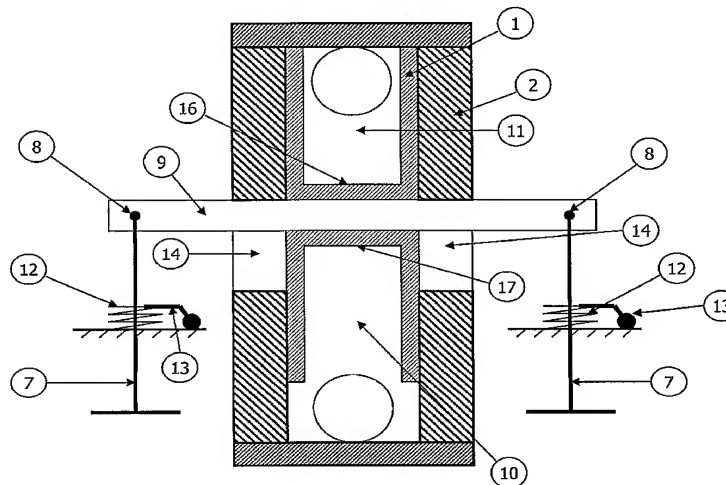
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(54) Title: VALVE OPERATING APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR AN ENGINE



(57) Abstract: A valve operating apparatus for an internal combustion engine including: a housing (2); a reciprocating piston (1) residing wholly within the housing (2), the reciprocating piston (1) driving one or more poppet valves (7); a first fluid supply path and a first fluid drain path, each path being controllable to supply or drain fluid to/from a first reciprocating piston end (16); a second fluid supply path and a second fluid drain path, each path being controllable to supply or drain fluid to/from a second reciprocating piston end (17); wherein said reciprocating piston (1), in use, is driven between a first position and a second position by controlling said fluid in said supply and drain paths, thereby operating said one or more poppet valves (7), and wherein a connector (9) passes through an aperture (14) in said housing (2) to connect said reciprocating piston (1) to said one or more poppet valves (7), said reciprocating piston (1) in co-operation with an internal wall of the housing forming a seal to prevent substantial egress of fluid from the housing (2) through said aperture (14).

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